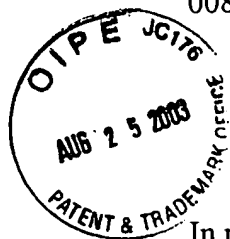


00862.003138

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#9/B
KD
9-10-03

In re Application of:

MASAHIKO MURATA, et al.

Application No.: 09/443,115

Filed: November 18, 1999

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS
AND METHOD AND COMPUTER
PROGRAM PRODUCT

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Examiner: M. Wallerson
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Group Art Unit: 2622
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August 22, 2003
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

AUG 28 2003

Technology Center 2600

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 23, 2003, the period for response to which having been extended to Monday, August 25, 2003, by the accompanying Petition For Extension Of Time, please amend the above-identified application, as follows: